NASA - LaRC
SAFETY NEWSLETTER
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CONFINED SPACES

Standby Personnel: It's not enough to have a standby person monitor the activities of those entering confined spaces, if that person is not properly prepared. Too many tragedies have occurred when the monitor attempts to make a rescue without protection. The standby person should be trained in the following:

* the importance of good ventilation procedures
* the warning signs and symptoms of exposure to the potential hazards
* all aspects of the hazards and the test necessary to confirm that conditions are safe for entry
* awareness of possible behavioral changes in those workers entering the confined space
* how to summon rescue personnel
* knowing the entrance area is unobstructed
* how to administer first aid and CPR (this is not an OSHA requirement)

A standby person should never enter a confined space to attempt a rescue, unless they have been relieved of their monitoring duties. Even then, they must be trained and equipped for a rescue.

HAZARD COMMUNICATION

LaRC's Hazard Communication Plan is an OSHA required program that is for the education of employees regarding chemicals in the workplace. The program involves initial training, a written program (LHB 1710.12) and refresher training. While the initial training and written program are in place at LaRC it is important to remember that refresher training is required within the facility annually. This requirement will be monitored closely during this year's safety and health audits. Refresher training should include the following areas:

1. How to detect the release of hazardous chemicals.

2. The hazards of all chemicals in your work area and the dangers of any job you are required to accomplish.

3. How to protect yourself from these dangers.

4. The details of the Hazard Communication Program developed by LaRC.

This requirement can be met by contacting Butch Jones at 4-8743 and requesting the Haz Com Refresher class. This class will be presented to your group in your facility at your convenience.

By following the safe work practices explained in your training, and using information from product warning labels and MSDS's, you can help keep hazardous chemicals under control in your workplace.

NONIONIZING RADIATION

Nonionizing radiation is electromagnetic that does not produce ionization, but that may result in a health hazard. Nonionizing radiation sources are manufactured items such as large radar, large magnets, high-current electrical equipment, induction heaters and non-FCC regulated microwave emitters. The following are some nonionizing sources found at LaRC:

1. Lasers

2. Infrared Sources

3. Electrical Fields

4. Magnetic Fields

5. Radiofrequency (RF)

6. Microwave Fields

7. Ultra violet Light

8. Visible Light

All of the above listed sources fall in our electromagnetic spectrum and they all have Permissible Exposure Guidelines. When working with or around any of these, make sure that you read all warnings and take the appropriate action to protect yourself and others during the operation of such equipment. For information concerning this subject, you may contact
Mr. Phillip D. Babb, Radiation Safety Officer (RSO) at 4-3210 or
Mr. Butch Jones, Alternate Radiation Safety Officer (ARSO) at 4-8743.

SAFETY CLASSES OFFERED

Just a reminder that the following safety training classes are available to be presented for you at your safety meetings:

Confined Spaces (permit required)
Confined Space Awareness
Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
Ergonomics (Office or Industrial)
Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS)
Heat Stress
Cryogenics
Chemical Safety (Chemical Refresher)
General Office Safety

If you would like to setup a class, contact your supervisor and he can schedule by contacting Butch Jones at 4-8743.